



# NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
LAS CRUCES FIELD OFFICE ■ 1800 MARQUESS ■ LAS CRUCES, NM 88005

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## Public Input Sought on Community Pit Rock Quarry

BLM would like public input to help make the right decision for the community pit.

Look around the City of Las Cruces and you will see something both beautiful and unique to our community. Building rock, including sandstone and limestone, makes up the walls outside our yards, the underpasses of Interstate-25, and is used in building all over the city.

Much of this rock comes from a community pit located east of town on public lands. The rock quarry, which has been part of the local economy since the early 1960s, has boomed over time.

The demand for the rock continued to grow, however, so did the pit's adjacent community. Two years ago the Bureau of Land Management asked for public input as it started a planning process to determine the future of the mine.

"We took all of the comments we received over the last two years seriously, and have incorporated them into our possible alternatives," said BLM Geologist Walter Todd.

The BLM has now developed several possible proposals for the future of the mine. Once again BLM is looking for public input, and will host a public meeting next week to get feedback on the different proposals.

"Our goal is to meet the needs of the community while making sure we minimize any potential impacts on our neighbors," said BLM Las Cruces Field Manager Ed Roberson. "Public comment at this meeting is extremely important because the feedback will tell us how close our proposed alternatives come to meeting this goal."

The public meeting will be held Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Las Cruces BLM Field Office, 1800 Marquess, off of Valley and Boutz. You can call the field office at 505.525.4300 for more information.

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